

RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE



el Don

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May 3, 1991

Abysmal voter turnout forces special election

By Celia Shakibai
el Don Staff Writer

Last week's ASB elections proved to be a disaster, polling-wise, as president-elect Chris Sandoval became the only candidate of several open posts, to fulfill student government constitution requirements and take the election.

As stated in RSC's Student Government Constitution, candidates for president, vice president and treasurer must receive a minimum of 50 percent plus one of the total votes or in this election, or 139 votes to qualify.

Although two students ran for vice president and one for treasurer, none were elected.

With over 28,000 full-time students, only

276 students voted; about 100 less than last year's election, and less than one percent of the student's voting power.

Of the four campus sites, only students from Santa Ana and Orange had the opportunity to vote on site, according to student activities coordinator, Angela Calara. Students from Centennial and Orange adult learning center were deprived of the chance to vote on campus. "We put forth much effort but the staff power we had restricted us from going to the other sites," said Calara.

Candidates campaigned at the Santa Ana campus for three days and at the Orange campus for one day. According to Calara, the Orange campus polling took place in the

morning when most students are attending.

Many students said they were unaware of the upcoming elections. Randy Wright, a night student said, "If it were not for the el Don, I wouldn't have even known that there was going to be an election. I think they should put the posters in a line of sight instead of on the ground."

Paul Nelson, a student said he was not aware of any elections and that he did not know of anyone that voted. Full-time student Hope Norris said, "I had no idea there was an election going on. I did not see any posters and my teachers did not say anything about it."

A special election will be held the first week of May to fill vacant positions.

1991-92 ASB Election Facts

There are over 28,000 full-time students at RSC and 42,000 total students.

The 1991-92 election received the participation of 276 students who cast a ballot; less than the 380 votes cast last election.

Chris Sandoval was the only candidate to be elected, which leaves ASB to hold a special election for vice president and treasurer.

From the 43 seats available for the senate position, five were filled.

Education

'Chivas Regal Effect' may be fading private college officials say

(CPS) - The "Chivas Regal effect" among independent colleges may be fading, a number of private campus officers now say.

The price of private schools, where tuition this school year averaged \$9,393, may finally be driving students away.

Students "are asking some very serious questions" about tuition prices and the quality of the education they're getting, says Humphrey Tonkin, president of Hartford College in Connecticut.

Tonkin's school experimented by offering half-price tuition to local students - a group of people who traditionally did not apply to Hartford - and found "a significant difference in the number of students who attend," Tonkin said.

"We're up at a level where people are taking a good hard look (at tuition costs) and asking 'can I swing this?'" added David Breneman, a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institute in Washington, D.C.

As proof, Breneman and others point to how price-cutting and special financing packages - including things like special student aid and 10-year tuition repayment plans - have helped schools attract more students.

The number of private schools offering financial aid has "grown

Please see, REGAL, Page 4

Festive Feet...



Dancers will be dancing and singers will be singing as RSC celebrates Cinco de Mayo at noon today in the amphitheater on the main campus.

Students claim minority scholarships discriminatory

Seven white students file lawsuit alleging race based scholarships defy civil rights act.

By Michele Reichel
el Don Staff Writer

College campuses across the country are once again permitted to offer special scholarships for minority students, according to the

U.S. Department of Education. Lamar Alexander, U.S. secretary of education, reinstated ethnic-based scholarships when he came into office on March 18, reversing a decision made by Michael L. Williams, assistant secretary of education for civil rights.

Williams' decision last December, allowed campuses to issue "minority-only" scholarships only if money for grants came from private gifts, not public tax funds; otherwise, schools could lose fed-

eral funding.

Alexander's reinstatement of scholarships for certain ethnic heritages angered seven white students who recently filed a lawsuit arguing the new law discriminated against white people.

The students filed their complaint in the U.S. District Court charging minority scholarships violate the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which does not allow financial aid to be awarded "based solely on the race of the recipient."

This new policy has caused con-

cern for campus officials and civil rights groups who think efforts to recruit more minorities could be in danger. Alexander has established a committee which is in the process of reviewing the new policy over the next six months. But for now, schools can legally issue ethnic-based scholarships.

"Colleges and universities should keep doing whatever they're doing," Alexander said. "Work with us to develop a policy. Then we'll have a policy, and we'll work with them to help them make any adjustments."

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News Update

Older Adults Day

Older Adults Day presents "TV or Not TV" on Wednesday, May 8, in the Johnson Center - U-201, with registration starting at 9 a.m. Joseph Benti, co-host of KCET's "By the Year 2000", will speak on "TV News: A Narrowing Perspective," at 9:30 a.m. followed by award winner, Terry Bales, Chairman of RSC's Telecommunications Department, who will speak at 1 p.m., on "Education in the Media Age."

The day's events will also include a Spring Fashion Show at 10:30 a.m. and Crafts and Resource Fair from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. The program is free of charge. For more details, please call 564-6153.

Poster Contest

Huntington Beach Community Clinic will sponsor a poster contest to publicize a benefit concert, August 3, 7 p.m., at Irvine Meadows. The concert will feature Dr. Rock, a well-known group of musicians, and other entertainers. Tickets cost \$10 now and \$15 at the gate, available through Ticketmaster.

Deadline for submission of posters is May 15. Winners will be selected by a panel of local art teachers and a member of the Board, with first place receiving \$500, second place \$100, and third place receiving ten tickets to the concert. Submit posters to HBCC, 17692 Beach Blvd., Suite 200.

The clinics receiving benefits are non-profit organizations who provide medical and counseling services to people who could not otherwise afford them. The HBCC has been serving Huntington Beach and surrounding communities for 20 years. They also provide AIDS testing, health information and prenatal care.

For more information, please call 842-2829 and ask for Jackie Curren, director.

5/10K Run

The City of Tustin and the Run for The Family Committee will host a 5 and 10K run, peewee dash, and 2K walk on Sunday, May 18, at Tustin Market Place, Jamboree Road and El Camino Real.

The 5K run begins at 7:30 a.m., the walk at 7:35 a.m., 10K at 8:15 a.m. and peewee dash at 9:00 a.m. Registration fee is \$15 for 5/10K runs. A \$10 fee will be charged for the 2K Walk and 1K Dash. Each registration will include a custom designed T-shirt. All proceeds will benefit Tustin High School Cross Country Athletes and Tustin Area Senior Center. For more information, please call 544-8890, extension 220.

Bio-ethical Workshops

RSC has set up a series of workshops to teach staff and students how to handle the bio-ethical dilemmas involved with the "right to die" controversy and deals especially with the Durable Power of Attorney.

According to Gloria Davenport, RSC counselor/instructor, she saw the need to educate people before they are faced with the personal crisis of being kept alive on life support systems for sometimes years with no control.

The DPACH is a legal document which allows the individual to appoint a guardian to take control in their health care in the event they are not of sound mind.

Davenport said that depending upon attendance and personal requests, more workshops will be set up for the fall semester and that she hopes that more students will enroll.

For exact time and dates of the workshops, please call Gloria Davenport at (714) 564-6150, or off campus call (714) 647-4920.

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Two-Year colleges doing a better job helping minorities transfer

(CPS) Despite fears that community colleges don't help enough students to transfer to four-year institutions, the number of two-year campus students who have transferred annually has stayed roughly the same during the last two decades, a new study has found.

The report, released in April, has also found the number of minority students who transfer is catching up with the number of white students who transfer.

"It's very encouraging to see the transfer rate for all ethnicities in (community) colleges with more or less balanced ethnicity," said Arthur M. Cohen, a researcher for the Center for the Study of Community Colleges, a research center based at the University of California at Los Angeles.

About 27 percent of Hispanic students at the 112 two-year campuses the researchers surveyed transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

The overall average came out to 23 percent, which "is consistent with percentages and figures going back for decades," Cohen said.

But that figure may be a little low, Cohen admitted, because the group could not get figures from many private, four-year colleges for how many of their students came from community colleges.

Cohen's study contradicts the results of other recent surveys, which generally worried that two-year campuses were not doing a very good job helping students transfer.

Ultimately, students who wanted to get their bachelor's degrees would transfer to a four-year campus.

But a 1986 University of Chicago study found that only 8.6 percent of the minority students and 12.6 percent of the white students at urban community colleges transferred to four-year institutions.

A university of Michigan study in 1989 found that the majority of the 24 percent of community college students who transferred to a four-year school were students who would have been academically qualified to attend that school right out of high school.

"Community colleges have made little impact in significantly reducing social stratification in higher education," the report concluded.

No one really knows if the number of community college students transferring per year is increasing, decreasing or staying the same, said Judith Eaton of the National Center for Academic Achievement and Transfer.

"We don't have enough data yet to make any national statements about transfer," she explained.

Regal: Private colleges won't raise tuition

Continued from page 1

dramatically," reported Frank Balz, executive director of the National Institution of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Balz estimates that nearly a quarter of the nation's private colleges now offer to guarantee they will help students they accept scrape together tuition.

Such programs have become important marketing tools for the schools. Since it promised financial aid to any student who needed it, Lehigh University in Pennsylvania got nine percent more applications for fall, 1991 than it got for its fall, 1990 term.

"We have reason to believe that the increase in applications is the result of this policy," said Bill Stanford, Lehigh's director of financial aid. "We had gotten to the point where (the university's) in-

sufficient funds (for aid) began to affect enrollment," Stanford admitted. The school "went on a missionary project" to collect \$1.2 million from alumni and donors to use to grant and loan money to students, Stanford said.

Others are catching on. In February, Emory University in Atlanta said it would start a program next fall in which students could lock onto a tuition rate for four years, and then take 10 years to pay it at a relatively low 9.8 percent interest rate.

A substantial number of private colleges, moreover, announced only moderate tuition hikes for next year.

Dartmouth, Bowdoin, Bucknell, St. Joseph's and Mills colleges as well as Princeton, Syracuse and Clarkson universities, among other private campuses, have promised to keep their price hikes for next fall consistent with inflation rate.

Until now, annual increases of 7-to-10 percent were common at private campuses.

"We'll be seeing schools who say we won't be raising tuition at all," predicts Arthur Hauptman, a consultant to the American Council on Education in Washington, D.C.

Hauptman thinks private colleges will avoid raising prices because they can't afford the aid they need to give students to pay them.

"The rate of increase (in tuition) in the eighties simply couldn't be sustained" if the schools hoped to compete with public campuses in attracting students, Breneman agreed. Breneman, as president of Kalamazoo College in 1989, caused a considerable stir with a series of articles and speeches claiming some independent colleges felt compelled to charge high prices in order to achieve a "Chivas Regal effect."

The effect, named after the famously expensive Scotch whiskey, meant that people would not feel

they were getting a quality education unless they were paying premium prices for it.

Conversely, Breneman said, if a private college kept its prices low, prospective students might perceive its academic offerings as low-quality, and not bother to apply. Now the pendulum has swung, he says. He notes the recession has forced some families to examine college costs more carefully.

Schools themselves, however, have changed their feelings about setting tuition rates since 1989, when the U.S. Department of Justice announced it was investigating 23 of the country's most selective colleges for allegedly conspiring to fix tuition rates and financial aid awards.

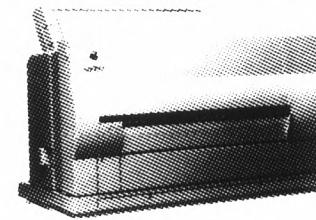
The investigation, which continues today, "had a kind of chilling effect" on the private schools, Breneman said. The 23 announced that they had canceled the annual meeting they used to exchange financial information about students.

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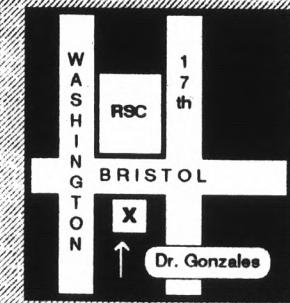
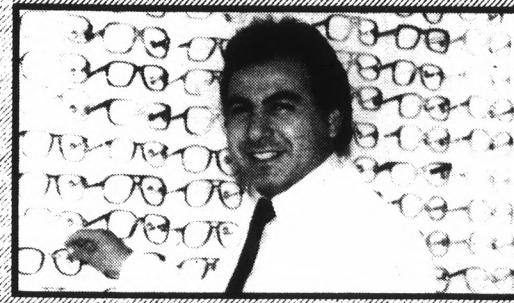
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-Edgar Cayce (1877-1945)

Letters...

In defense of the President

Dear Editor:

As ASB President, it is incumbent upon me to respond to two recent editorials published in the el Don. I should now like to address the allegations brought forth in those letters.

First of all, as Student Government we are recognized by the State of California as being the official representative of the student population at RSC. Expressed in your editorials were concerns that ASRSC lacked membership and student interest. It is important to note that the 1990-91 ASRSC can boast a fall semester membership of 38 out of 40 available seats filled. Interestingly, this represents the largest ASRSC in the college's history. While current membership is smaller, we can be proud of the fact that we represent one of the hardest working, conscientious and productive student governments as will be evident by the conclusion of this letter. ASRSC efforts at increasing student interest can be seen in our support and funding of Inter-Club Council (ICC) and our open encouragement of students to participate in existing clubs and establish new ones. It should also be mentioned that the president of ICC is a fully enfranchised member of ASRSC Cabinet thereby ensuring representation of all recognized campus clubs and their members.

A second concern found in your editorials is the alleged irresponsible use of the ASRSC budget. As a point of information, our working budget for the 1990-91 academic year was \$27,000. That amount averages to \$0.65 per student. Please be informed over \$10,000 of this budget is established for student payroll (none of which is received by members of student government). In addition, ten scholarships—including a \$500 award to a transferring student—will be presented at the close of the academic year. All scholarships were available to students-at-large. As is evident, nearly one-half of our entire budget is returned to RSC students by way of payroll and scholarships. As should be clear, we are not "richly funded." In fact, neighboring community colleges with fewer enrolled students operate on budgets exceeding at least three times our amount. The remaining ASRSC funds have contributed to the following: 75th Anniversary Celebration, Homecoming activities, securing Benjamin Hooks and Gil Martinez as speakers, funding activities for Alpha Gamma Sigma, MEChA, Beyond War, Black Students Union, CARE Club, Child Development Center and Disabled Student Center. We also recognized our State Championship Basketball Team, promoted activities at various district sites and will be recognizing over 900 graduates at a Commencement reception. In addition, we sponsored panel discussions on the Homeless Problem and the Persian Gulf Crisis. As you can see, not only are our expenditures and events useful and rewarding but we accomplished a great deal on a limited budget.

A third area which needs to be addressed concerns the many suggestions presented in your editorials. As has been the history of ASRSC Student Government, we recognize and continue to encourage all suggestions which can better the students' overall experience at RSC. We too would like to see food programs for the needy, money for single parents and the replacement of outdated equipment in all departments on campus. However, funding and district policy

regarding expenditures makes these expenditures simply not feasible.

Finally, it should be noted we are not lackeys nor do we bend to the whims of special interest groups. We have virtually acknowledged every faction of student population present at RSC and its surrounding communities. This is a far cry from being known as "BBQ-U" as were our predecessors. Our continued participation in the Institutional Governance Committee as well as representing RSC at the state level provide a strong foundation for our goals and dreams to become realities.

In conclusion, we would again extend an invitation to the staff of the el Don to visit the weekly Senate and Cabinet meetings in order to hopefully establish a network of communication which can only lead to an increase in understanding. This, in turn, will elevate student participation in our own self-governance.

-Art Jimenez
President
ASRSC Student Government

Angry student with important message

Dear Mr. Creel,

Each morning after driving through the parking lot of Rancho Santiago's Orange Campus, I notice at times the handicapped parking spaces are occupied by cars without proper permits. In the past two weeks more than four non-permit vehicles have used these spaces without receiving citations. After inquiring with RSC's Chief of Security, J.R. Johnson, it is clear that money is once again the issue.

Since RSC is unable to afford a morning and evening security guard, I would like to make a plea to the students. Having been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis last semester, this issue directly affects me and it is upsetting to know that there could be handicapped drivers that are not able to use these convenient parking spots.

These spaces are put there for students that have more to worry about than being late to class or having to walk a little bit further. I just hope that when and if I need to start using these handicapped spaces there will be one available.

-Sincerely,
Michelle Olson

ASB election victim speaks

This semester the el Don ran a number of different editorials on the ASB, conditions on campus, and student apathy. As a result, I got into a number of philosophical debates. I also got this wild idea to try and change things.

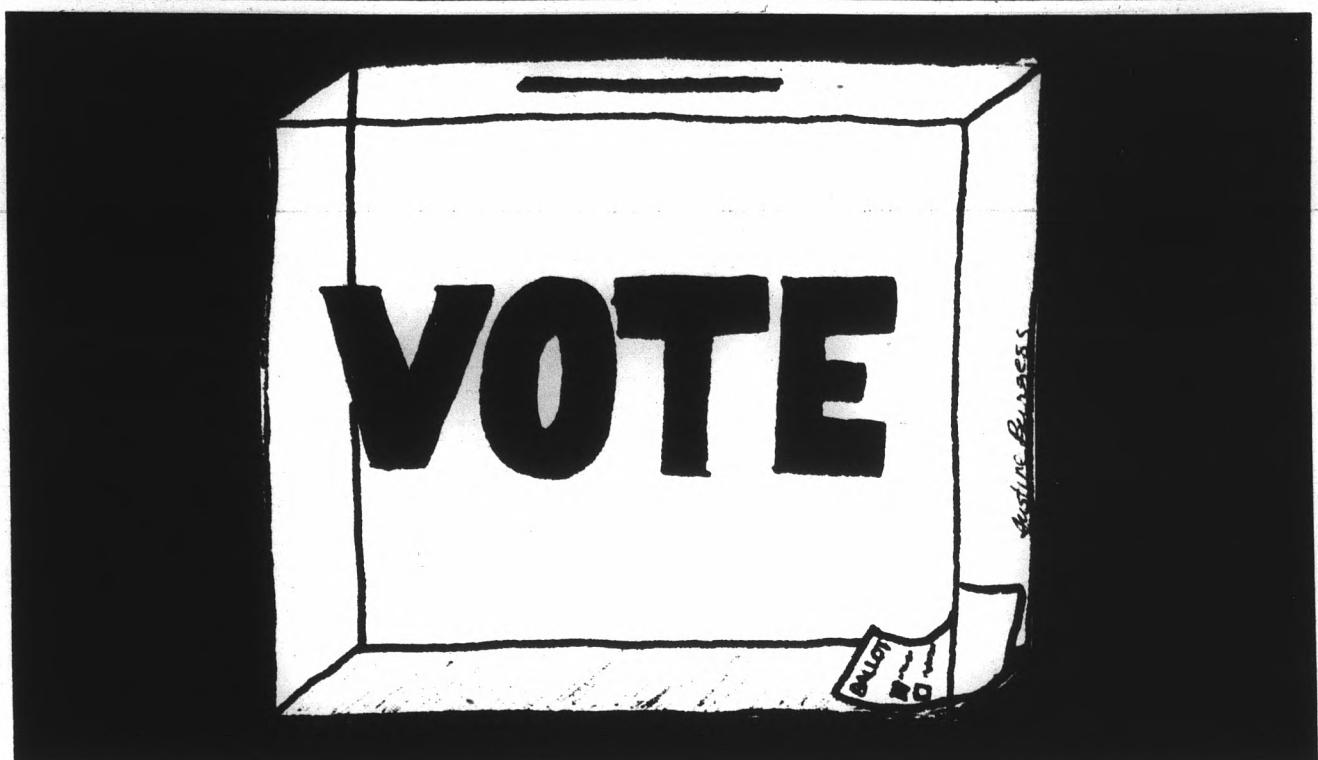
My friends told me (politely) I was nuts. "Why should you care? I mean nobody else ever does!" I told them I couldn't believe it was that bad.

Thinking I could make a difference, I submitted my application for ASB treasurer.

I was an idealist, I was a dreamer, I was dead wrong.

The election process was confusing, disorganized and too short. I couldn't find the people I needed to speak with, or the supplies to make posters.

After a week of trips to the ASB offices (locked) and or Angela Calara (back in one hour). I finally got the stuff I needed to make my posters, on the



I don't know and I don't care...

The ASB elections took place but no one cared. To be more accurate, only a little more than a half of a percent of the RSC student body gave a damn. As a result, a new president, as noble as his goals may seem, does not have the support of the majority of the students.

Some may choose not to vote because of a perception of a lack of import of a community college government. Wrong. A powerful student backed government can make a difference. They have in the past. Policies unfair to students have been abolished and instructors with a negative or detrimental approach have been released because of constant badgering of the administration by a strong student government. But a government without a backbone, no matter how determined

the members are, can get little of substance accomplished.

We take our privileges lightly and at the same time complain about government in general. In other words, we are spoiled. A potentially dangerous situation can arise out of an apathetic populace; governments go unchecked.

The whole voting concept is a guarantee to the people that they are entitled to run the government, and it all starts at the bottom. Don't take it for granted, take advantage of it. Vote.

Use every opportunity, every election to your advantage. Many have died for the opportunity to vote. Keep the privilege alive, use it, lest we lose it all.

el Don

What really is Cinco de Mayo?

The fifth of May is a festive celebration to supposedly recognize the Mexican people. When I was eight, I asked my father about Cinco de Mayo and why we celebrate it in the U.S. He said it was a battle Mexico won at Puebla. I again asked why we celebrate it here. He paused and just shrugged. I was confused. When he told me his view of Cinco de Mayo, I asked myself, "what is Cinco de Mayo?" "I believe that Cinco de Mayo is an important day in Mexican history, but the entire concept behind Cinco de Mayo has been commercialized by Americans, therefore it has lost its true meaning. To me, Cinco de Mayo is more than a celebration, but a continuing fight for our rights in this land."

The true meaning of Cinco de Mayo is when Benito Juarez escaped from Mexico, with the help of his generals, into El Paso de Norte. He defended the people of Mexico, and came back from exile to throw out the French. Cinco de Mayo is a clear cut example of the dominant Anglo culture in the Southwest United States. It relives the past, when the United States destroyed half of occupied Mexico in 1848. Politicians and scholars seemed to do the Mexican people a favor by sharing the burden for the historical events that occurred in the past, but in a sense it is a manipulation of the Mexican people by the Anglo. To this day, the gente continues to fight oppression of the Anglo Saxon. This day which is called Cinco de Mayo means only one thing, that the fight of the people does not lie in the victory at Puebla in 1862, but it lies right here as we fight our everyday battle of oppression!

My oppression means only one thing, that is promised by our constitution! This oppression is my Cinco de Mayo, and I will continue to battle my own Puebla here in occupied Mexico.

Rancho Santiago College el Don

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RSC el Don, Letters To The Editor, 17th at Bristol streets, Santa Ana, CA 92706

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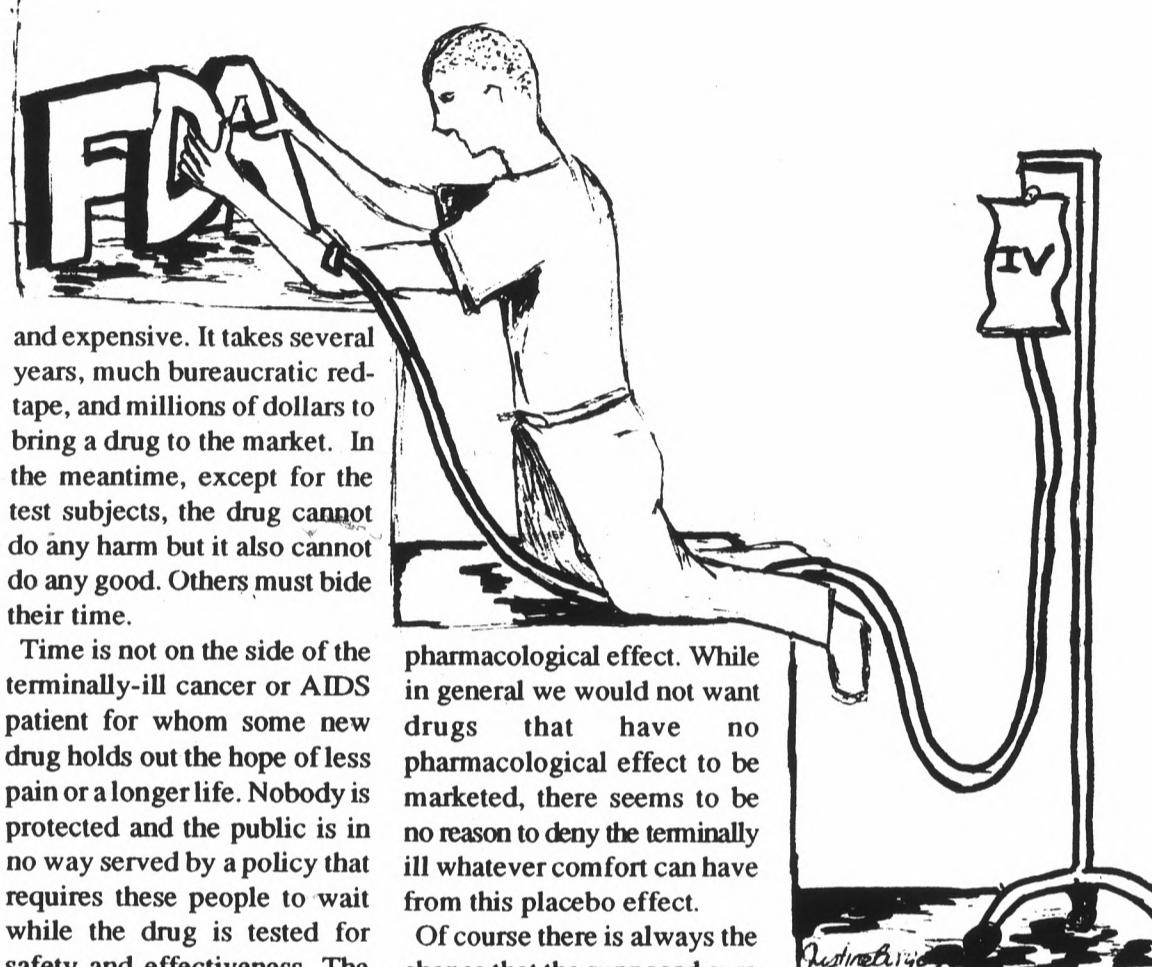
By William Stewart
Thomblison
el Don Staff Writer

A condemned prisoner, who is about to be executed by a firing squad, asks for a last cigarette, but is refused on the grounds that smoking might be injurious to his health. That is a bad joke. A cancer patient, who is about to die from his affliction, asks for an experimental medication, but is refused on the grounds that the drug has not been proved to be safe and effective. That is a cruel joke and a bad policy.

The Pure Food and Drug Act, which set up the US Food and Drug Administration, was originally intended to protect the public from contaminated food and drugs, such as rotten meat. Much later, after the thalidomide crisis, manufacturers were required to show that the drugs and patent medicines they sold were not harmful. Recently, as a response to the consumers' movement, the FDA began to require that manufacturers prove that their potions are not only "pure" and safe, but effective.

Initially, it does not seem unreasonable to require drug manufacturers to prove that their goods are both safe and effective; most consumers, after all, cannot determine these questions for themselves, and certainly cannot determine them without actually testing the drugs. An unsafe or ineffective drug may look exactly like a safe and effective remedy, so the ordinary consumer has no way of telling which is which.

The problem is that the testing process is both time-consuming



and expensive. It takes several years, much bureaucratic red-tape, and millions of dollars to bring a drug to the market. In the meantime, except for the test subjects, the drug cannot do any harm but it also cannot do any good. Others must bide their time.

Time is not on the side of the terminally-ill cancer or AIDS patient for whom some new drug holds out the hope of less pain or a longer life. Nobody is protected and the public is in no way served by a policy that requires these people to wait while the drug is tested for safety and effectiveness. The terminally-ill cannot simply wait; while they are waiting their conditions deteriorate, often to the point that even if the drug should prove effective, it will be of no help to them. John Maynard Keynes's observation, "In the long run we are all dead," is especially meaningful to a person with inoperable cancer who must wait for a long run of tests and approvals before he is allowed to try a potential cure.

Sometimes people will feel better, and therefore be able to function better, if they take a drug which they believe to be effective, even if the drug is later found to have no

pharmacological effect. While in general we would not want drugs that have no pharmacological effect to be marketed, there seems to be no reason to deny the terminally ill whatever comfort can have from this placebo effect.

Of course there is always the chance that the supposed cure will be worse than the disease. The unapproved drug might kill the patient. But that is a risk that some terminally-ill people are willing to take. To deny them the right to take that risk not only deprives them of their last shreds of hope, but also deprives them of a basic part of human dignity.

The expense of the drug-testing process leaves many people with rare diseases without a remedy. If a drug will be sold to millions of sufferers, the millions of dollars it takes to meet the FDA requirements can be recouped by the manufacturer. But there are diseases that are so rare

that no manufacturer can afford to market potential remedies. There are drugs that are available in other parts of the world, but are not available here simply because the costs of securing FDA approval are too high.

Even medications that have won FDA approval for a specified application must be re-approved if they are to be used in other applications.

The current FDA approval process is bad medicine. It makes our medical system less effective and more expensive. Patients must have more freedom to determine, with the help of their physicians, what medications and what risks they will take.

'Jap bashing' is not the answer

By Gregory Creel
el Don Editor in Chief

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu was here in Orange County and one of the topics brought up was Japan's level of commitment in the War in the Gulf.

Yet what also came up was our insistence that the Japanese sort of ease up on their exports to the US. Too much Japanese, and not enough American product is being bought. I still hear Americans griping about this. "They're buying up our land and selling us their cheap cars. Something should be done," people complain.

Orange County Rep. Bill Dannemeyer has an idea. Close the port of Long Beach to all ships with Japanese cars. But, doing this is an attack on our freedom. In doing that, we will be denied our freedom of choice (which hardly agrees with the "hands off" policy of a Republican government). If I want a Honda Civic, I have the right to buy it. I still don't have the courage to lay my money down on an American car. I just don't make enough money to gamble on an American risk. I will buy foreign until America comes up with something better. I deserve the best for my money.

Same with our land and hotels. Sure they snatch them up. But we aren't forced to sell. We sell, they pay with U.S. dollars. That's the free-market way. They play by our rules.

My fellow Americans, don't blame Japan for our economic woes, or for their success. We're too proud to admit error as we continue to plod deeper into debt and economic chaos, while the Japanese grow for one simple reason: The whole concept of Japanese business practice is to out-work the competition and acknowledge and learn from their, or anyone else's mistakes.

They're buying up lots of land. It's all legal. And who on earth would think we wouldn't do the same thing if we could? Let's stop this Japan bashing and look at the situation. Why do they succeed where we fail? Let's face it. We aren't the greatest. Japan doesn't claim to be, but have more the right to. Let's learn from them. We are in mass debt and our economy is in chaos. We aren't the America of old. We've grown fat and lazy. Japan is cruising (without a boast or brag).

If we become wise, patient, humble and diligent, we may once again reach greatness. But for now it's Japan's turn to enjoy their success, and our turn to get back to work and learn from a good example of a teacher who beat us at our own game on our terms.

This is no game, this is serious money

By Audre Soifer
el Don Staff Writer

I had a new experience over the weekend. My son, Jason, took (not dragged) me to a baseball card show. He explained to me that the one we were going to in Anaheim wasn't a very big show, but he wanted to see what was available. He was looking for one particular card he had trouble finding. So off we went to the show.

To me it was huge. I don't think I've ever seen so many grown men (and some women) bartering over such a small piece of cardboard. The conversations that I heard between grown men (and some not so grown) were all about the same things, these two and a half by three and a half inch pieces of cardboard (which, by the way, went down in value if

they had been dogeared or bent even the slightest). It also seemed that the smaller the cards were the older they were and the more money they were worth. Of course this was because there were less of these cards in circulation. These people were totally engrossed in these cards. They were fanatics! They lived and breathed baseball cards.

We were there around lunch time and the people behind the set up tables would no sooner think of breaking away for lunch than Elizabeth Taylor would think of not marrying. Once in a while we would come across a table with some basketball or hockey cards, but the big crowds (and I do mean big) were all over the tables set up with more baseball cards than you could imagine. Watching the boys with their toys was an experience. I saw cards priced from 70 cents to upwards

of \$114,000. Some of them were sure nice looking and were sealed (probably hermetically) in plastic with screws in each of the corners for protection. I couldn't find out if the card was being protected from the air, or human breath. I just couldn't believe it. Boy, were they taking what was once a little boy's hobby seriously. These grown up boys, some of whom made a lot of money trading, for lots of dollars were deadly serious. I cannot even fathom how much money changed hands that day at that one location.

For instance, as my son pointed out to me, Wayne Gretzky, the hockey player, and the owner of the Kings hockey team got together and just purchased a Honus Wagner baseball card (who?) for approximately \$433,000. WHY? This wasn't counting a commission to the auctioneer of around \$23,000. I would

have liked to have been that broker! Gee, all I do is work for a living. Now I'm sure I'm in the wrong business.

We left when he was finished looking. And, by the way, he went home with lots of other cards, but not the elusive one he was after. "Better luck next time," I told him.

Through the parking lot I shook my head and chuckled, sort of in disbelief. I wasn't laughing because I saw the prices of the cards and the money changing hands.

I just was thinking about when I was a kid and we used to get the packages of gum with the baseball cards inside and we would throw the baseball cards away because we bought the five cent package for the gum. I wonder if I gave away a Honus Wagner? Babe Ruth? Probably. I don't want to talk about it.

FEATURE

FRIDAY MAY 3, 1991\ el Don

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Viva!

Former RSC Alumnus and muralist has dedicated his life's work to chronicling Chicano life in Orange County.

Text and Photo by Charles Anderson

Emigdio

Emigdio Vasquez, an RSC alumni, is an internationally known artist and mural painter. His artistic works and photo-realistic style is studied and appreciated by art critics nationwide.

According to Dr. Shifra Goldman, RSC art history instructor and curator, cultural imagery flows from his brush and his eye captures historical realism.

"Emigdio Vasquez is indeed a master of his craft and an educator about the life and history of Orange County through his realistic painting. He is a fine representation of the Chicano art spirit in our midst," said Goldman. Vasquez taught a class in mural painting at RSC for three semesters and was art advisor to the murals on campus. He is currently teaching a mural class out of an Anaheim art studio.

Vasquez is the father of six children and his son Carlos, also an artist, is his assistant on mural projects. He has painted 18 murals in Orange County. His work can be recognized by the "super-realistic" style, historical transitions and themes, according to Vasquez. He does easel paintings on a variety of subject matter, but basically he does life experiences of "barrio-working people."

"I recently finished a mural on the east wall of the Transit Building in downtown Santa Ana," He said. It's on Santa Ana street near Ross. "The mural begins with early Juaneno Indian life,

Spanish, Mexican and pioneer transitions, the characters are frozen in a time frame of more than a hundred years."

The background of the mural are many ethnic groups looking into the future, according to Vasquez.

He received an AA degree in art with an emphasis on drawing and painting at RSC in 1972. He studied art history with Dr. Shifra Goldman who specializes in meso-American and Chicano art history, and attended California State University, Fullerton from 1979-1982 where he received his B.A and M.A. degrees. He also has earned certificates in graphics from Fullerton College. Vasquez said, "One of my instructors who encouraged me to become an artist was Robert Egan." Vasquez was born in Jerome, Arizona and attended the Holy Catholic School and Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana.

His art works have been featured in "Chican Arte" in the L.A. Municipal Art Gallery, and at "The Real Thing" art show in Laguna Beach.

Other shows included the U.S. Cultural Center at Berlin, Germany, called, "Imagines de la Raza" and at the CARA Exhibition, "Chicano Art Resistance Affirmation" at UCLA. His work is currently being shown at Museo Chicano at Phoenix, Arizona. He has a one-man show at Irvine Valley College opening on May 5.

According to Vasquez, he wants to paint more easel sized paintings and less of the mural sized

work, which he has proven to be a success.

"I just want to be able to devote more time to my easel work and making a living at it. I have been working for the past 20 years as a mural painter." He said.

"I'd like to be able to focus on my easel painting. I have so many projects that I'd like to do like the history of the working class and I do most of what I'm living in; Chicano art and the trials and tribulations of it."

Vasquez said he does not have one particular favored artist. "...going back in history, Velasquez, Titian, - I like the Painters of 'The Ash Can School,' the social realists of the 1930's, the Mexican muralist like Diego Rivera, who had a love/hate standing with the Mexican Communist Party, and Andrew Wyeth among others. I can't just narrow it down to one..." He hopes one day, if he has the financial backing, to open a gallery, because he saw a need for more of the Chicano art represented here.

"My work, to some degree reflects my life and growing up in Orange, I've seen the growth of Orange County from a rural to a hi-tech society. Much of the art work that I saw was not Chicano art." He said.

"I want to do my life experiences and the plight of the common man. To some degree, I have an affinity for the period of the subjects I tend to focus on - the working class. In a sense, I consider myself as a chronicler of a slice of life. I am a genre painter of people in their daily life."

Style

MAY 3, 1991/ el Don

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Keep On 'Trek'ing

Popular TV series

Star Trek has reached
its 25th birthday and
is still going at
warp speed

By F. Colin Kingston
el Don Style Editor

Few series in television history, if any, can match the longevity and staying power of Star Trek.

The original series lasted three years on the NBC television network. Now, 25 years later, Star Trek continues to grow in popularity.

A sixth motion picture based on the original series is now in production. Close to 100 Star Trek novels have been published. A monthly Star Trek comic book remains a popular seller.

Creation Conventions will soon be hosting what promises to be the largest Star Trek convention ever during the weekend of June 7 and 8 and 9 in Los Angeles at the Shrine Auditorium. Featuring an on-stage reunion with each member of the original cast, including series creator Gene Roddenberry, the convention is expected to draw over 10,000 "trekies" from all over the world. What accounts for the series continued and increasing popularity?

Star Trek was producer Gene Roddenberry's idealistic/optimistic view of the future. Originally aired during the time of the Vietnam War and student protests, the message of Star Trek was pure and simple - mankind survives the problems of the 20th century and goes on to devote its time to more noble causes such as improving the quality of life and "exploring strange new worlds."

The road getting the series on the



AGELESS AS THE UNIVERSE- The cast of Star Trek has zoomed along for a quarter century

air was a long one, however. NBC rejected the first pilot, titled "The Cage" calling it "too cerebral." Roddenberry revamped, adding more action to suit NBC. By that time, actor Jeffrey Hunter, who played Captain Christopher Pike, was unavailable for the second pilot.

Roddenberry ingeniously devised a way to use most of the footage from "The Cage", adding a new character played by William Shatner, Captain James T. Kirk. This saved him thousands of dollars in production costs.

NBC ordered other changes as well. Roddenberry's original plan called for a woman to be second in command of the starship Enterprise. NBC axed that idea saying that, "nobody would believe a woman could be second in command of such a vessel." (Never mind that the series was set in the 23rd Century and women's rights would supposedly advance by that time.) Thus the character of Mr. Spock, one of the most popular tele-

vision characters of all time, was born.

Star Trek was different from most television series of the day because of its ethnic diversity. Kirk was the "all American" hero, Sulu Japanese, Uhura African, Chekov Russian, Mr. Scott from the British Commonwealth. Mr. Spock was half alien life form. Yet each worked in harmony together. A far cry from many of the racial troubles of the day. Star Trek also featured the first interracial kiss on network television between Captain Kirk (Shatner) and Lt. Uhura (Nichols). This might have caused an outrage on other series, but to Star Trek fans this seemed "logical."

Roddenberry used the science fiction setting of the series to comment on many of the social issues of the day. He told an audience at a Broadcasting Museum tribute held in his honor in 1989 that, "With our setting (science fiction) we could

tackle subjects that would have gotten rejected on other shows. We could show an alien world facing many of the problems we were but the network... would not catch the similarities. Our viewers were smart enough to read between the lines..."

One key ingredient to the popularity of Star Trek was the relationship between the three main characters, Kirk, Spock and McCoy. Spock was the voice of reason and logic. McCoy, the voice of humanity. Roddenberry described Captain Kirk to writer David Alexander as, "the complete airline pilot. You know, you never doubt, when you're flying with Kirk that you're going to get down one way or another." During its initial run, Star Trek ranked no higher than 52nd in the ratings. Because of low ratings, and high production costs the series was canceled at the end of its second year.

NBC soon found itself flooded with angry fan mail asking that the show

be brought back. Picket lines soon appeared outside of network studios. Much to the delight of Trekkies, NBC brought the series back for a third season. The third season is generally considered to be the weakest in terms of quality. That, combined with the new timeslot (Friday nights at 10p.m.) finished off Star Trek once and for all, or so people thought. The show that replaced Star Trek on the network schedule? "Laugh In."

With television syndication came an entire new generation who were being exposed to Star Trek for the first time. Its popularity soon began to grow:

As Star Trek continued to increase in popularity, Paramount Pictures decided to bring the series back to network television, nearly ten years after it was first canceled. Just as things were about ready to roll a film called "Star Wars" made its debut and began making millions of dollars. Science fiction was suddenly "in." Wishing to jump on the bandwagon Paramount decided to launch Star Trek as a major motion picture.

While fans were disappointed with "Star Trek: The Motion Picture", "Star Trek" II, III and IV were extremely successful grossing several hundred million dollars between them. "Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home", the most popular film in the series, made almost \$100 million alone.

"Star Trek V: The Final Frontier" was poorly received by fans, the general public and critics alike. The lowest grossing movie and worst in the series.

Recently, Paramount Pictures announced plans for a sixth Star Trek film to commemorate the series 25th anniversary. Production is under way with a release date planned for the summer of 1992. Because the cast is aging, this will most likely be the final Star Trek movie featuring the original cast.

With all the books, magazines, games, toys and movies; Star Trek continues to go "where no series has gone before."

The "Star Trek" universe is an ever expanding one. Listed here are items which should be of interest to even the most serious "trekker."

Creation Conventions and **Starlog** magazine present "Star Trek: The 25th Anniversary Celebration." A convention/celebration featuring each member of the original cast, along with series creator Gene Roddenberry. Held June 7, 8 and 9 in Los Angeles at the Shrine Auditorium and Exhibit Hall. Admission \$30 per day. Call (516) 746-9626 for further information. This is a once in a lifetime happening.

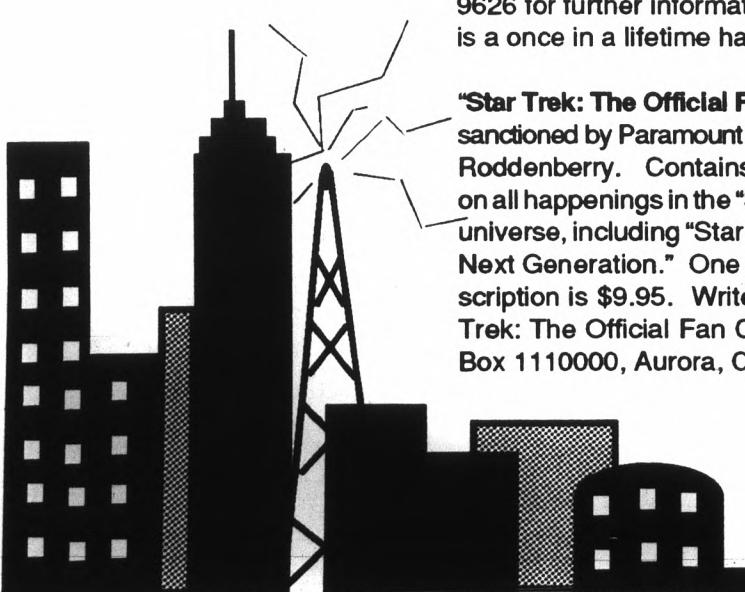
"Star Trek: The Official Fan Club", sanctioned by Paramount and Gene Roddenberry. Contains updates on all happenings in the "Star Trek" universe, including "Star Trek: The Next Generation." One year subscription is \$9.95. Write to: Star Trek: The Official Fan Club, P.O. Box 1110000, Aurora, Colorado

For the serious "Star Trek" memorabilia collector, Lincoln Enterprises is the place to do your shopping. Scripts, props and uniforms are just some of the items available. Owned and operated by Gene Roddenberry and his wife Majel Barrett. For a free catalog write to: Lincoln Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 691370, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

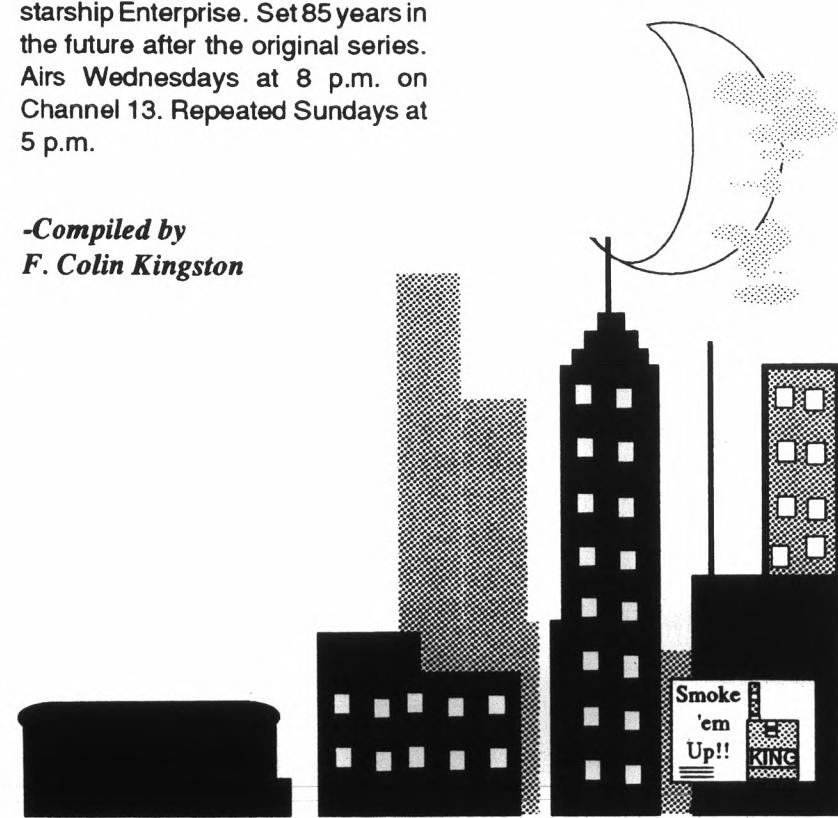
All 79 episodes of the original series, 22 episodes from the animated version, and all five motion pictures are available from Paramount Home Video. Check your local video store for details.

"Star Trek: The Next Generation," features an all-new cast and crew and the continuing voyages of the starship Enterprise. Set 85 years in the future after the original series. Airs Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on Channel 13. Repeated Sundays at 5 p.m.

*-Compiled by
F. Colin Kingston*



FYI
ON THE STAGE



Smoke
em
Up!!
KING

Photos By Kay Montana

WOK'S COOKIN'...

Wok Don't Run To Wei Ling Louie's Chinese Cuisine



Wei Ling Louie, cooking instructor, stirring-up pork with spices

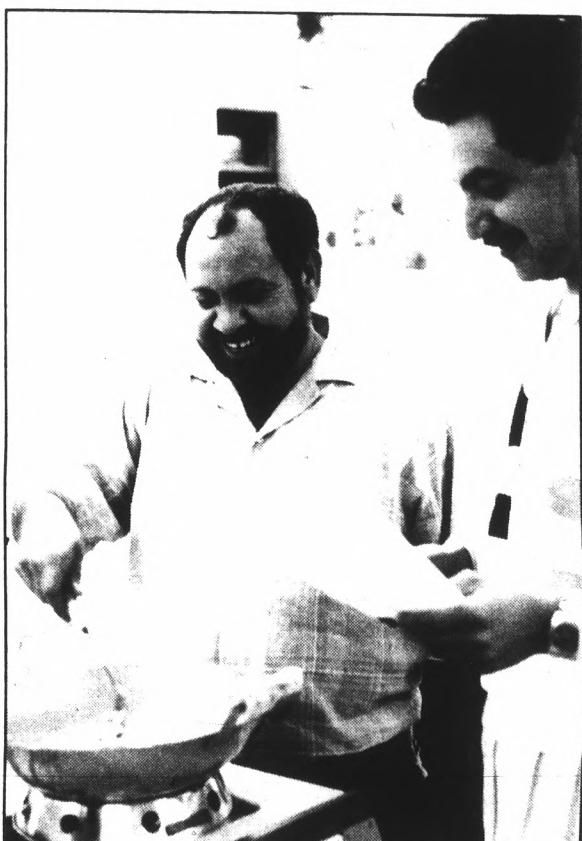
Wei Ling Louie has been teaching Chinese cooking classes for the past 12 years at RSC. If you don't know a bean thread from a lotus root, you're sure to find out in this class. You'll learn what they are and how to prepare them.

Her students come from all walks of life to learn the fine art of Chinese cooking. Bill Holley, one of the students from Louie's Monday night class, enjoys gourmet cooking so much that he has taken Chinese, Italian and French cooking classes. His favorite dish so far? "Wooley beef," he said.

Louie teaches her students every aspect of preparing a four course menu each week. Along with it, students get a short history lesson about the culture and region the meal comes from.

She teaches four different styles of cooking including Mandarin, Cantonese, Szechwan and Northern.

After her students finish creating the cuisine, they sit down and enjoy their meal together. According to Judy Blair, another of Louie's students, her husband greets her in the garage after class for the "doggy bag."



Sergio Mairema, left, Jaime Garcia pondering how to sizzle something yummy



La Verne Kidd, Pam Wright, Karen Mansfield, Tony Pham sample their cooking fare

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"DROP ANCHOR AND GRAB A LIFE PRESERVER"

The Silver Screen

Movie magic keeps May movies moving

By Jim Silver
El Don Staff Writer

Here's some films still worth seeing, or seeing again.

Steven Seagal's latest, "Out for Justice" is his best film to date. The fights are graphically gory and plentiful, with quite a lot of humor too. I think combining those two elements may be morally questionable because it makes violence more palatable. Martial arts fans won't mind though. For a man of 50, what Steven Seagal can do is amazing; watch out Mr. Holyfield. The plot is recycled, but more clever this time. Did anyone care?...No. I do wish Seagal would find another way to lose his gun. The pretentious obligatory bar-filled, gun-my-gun-away bit is getting tiresome.

"Class Action" is a class act with rich, strong performances by both Gene Hackman and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio. The splendid script skillfully interweaves the antagonistic father-daughter relationship with court drama not-so-loosely based on Ford Motor Company's infamous exploding Pinto cases. The real winner in this case is the audience. Go...and judge for yourself.

Jonathan Demme's "The Silence of the Lambs:" Jodie Foster turns in another excellent performance. She's the green FBI recruit given the errand of trying to pick the brain of the psychiatrist sociopath, Dr. Hannibal "The Cannibal" Lecter. The agency needs some help catching another serial killer who has the nasty habit of skinning his victims. Hence, his nickname, Buffalo Bill (played convincingly by Ted Levine.) Scott Glenn is excellent as Foster's FBI mentor. Lecter is portrayed by Anthony Hopkins. If there is a God, he will be remembered at Oscar time. His performance is genius and absolutely chilling. There are short glimpses of graphic butchery in this film, but the acts do not take place on-screen. The script is extremely well-written. The intelligent story is both complex and compelling. "Lambs" is a supremely memorable psychological thriller; far superior to...

"Sleeping with the Enemy" deals with a wife's escape from her abusive, obsessive, wealthy husband. She fakes her death and moves far away to a small town. But alas, she is eventually found by the now even more hostile hubby. Julia Roberts, Patrick Bergin (exuding true creepiness) and Kevin Anderson are all fine. It's got some good moments, but the actors are betrayed by a script that uses improbable contrivances to manipulate the plot. It devolves into cliches and predictability.

Kevin Costner's "Dances With Wolves:" Wonderful! Just see it!

"Awakenings:" unfortunately has gone to sleep, but you can still find "Goodfellas." Martin Scorse's latest work scintillates with authenticity, intimacy, and ruthlessness. There's not a false performance to be found; Joe Pesci, Paul Sorvino, Ray Liotta and Robert DeNiro are all exceptional. The comradery is infectious and the pace is frantic.

The trailer for Kevin Costner's upcoming "Robin Hood, the Prince of Thieves" was outstanding. A fresh look to the story; great cast.

Native American Bird Songs echo at Morongo

Memorial Day festivities celebrate Indian life

By F. Colin Kinston
El Don Style Editor

Bird songs are perhaps the oldest music in America. They echoed throughout the valleys and canyons of Southern California long before the arrival of the white man.

These songs, passed down through the generations, will be featured at the annual "Fiesta at Morongo" on Sunday, May 26 at the Morongo Indian Reservation. Located near the city of Banning, "Fiesta at Morongo" attracts Native American singers, dancers and artisans from all over the Western United States.

Bird Songs are comprised of ancient melody and verse. These songs are sung in a cycle, each with its own beauty and style. The story progresses, song by song within the cycle, until the story is complete.

Serving as Master of Ceremonies for the festival, for the third consecutive year, will be Paul Apodaca, Curator of Folk Art at the Bowers Museum. Apodaca is returning from his duties as a consultant to the Smithsonian Institute's Museum of the American Indian to host the event.

Commenting on the importance of the fiesta, Apodaca said, "The Bowers Museum in Santa Ana has a long standing relationship with the tribes of Southern



California. Our involvement with the Cahuilla tribe of Morongo is an extension of our efforts to document and preserve the native culture of Southern California."

"There are 32 Indian reservations in Southern California, 114 in the state. Most people have never been to one. This fiesta is a great opportunity for people to make contact with the native people in California," Apodaca said.

Native American dancers and singers from many tribes will perform throughout

the day. Artisans will be selling many finely crafted goods, including jewelry.

Those attending the fiesta also have a chance to visit what Apodaca refers to as "the biggest little museum in the world." The Malkai Museum, located on the Morongo Indian Reservation, is world renowned for its efforts in preserving Native American history.

The highlight of any fiesta is when the crowd joins hand-in-hand with the Native American artisans as they sing and dance to the beautiful sounds of the music. Also not to be missed by any visitor is the famous luncheon fiesta barbecue.

The Memorial Day "Fiesta at Morongo" will be held on Sunday, May 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year's festival will begin with a flag raising ceremony honoring those who fought in Operation Desert Storm. Admission and parking is free.

To reach the Morongo Indian Reservation, take the 10 freeway east to Fields Road. The reservation is located just outside the town of Banning. Signs will lead visitors to the festival. Those attending the fiesta should bring a light windbreaker and some sunscreen.

Apodaca said, "People attending the fiesta not only get to visit a reservation but also help support the efforts toward publishing and education which the Malkai sponsors. Besides that, it will also be a lot of fun."

Media Moves

KOCE tunes in on special election issues

By F. Colin Kinston
El Don Style Editor

KOCE-TV Channel 50 is presenting specials on two of the hottest issues in the upcoming Orange County election on May 14 - the proposed half-cent sales tax for new jails and courts and an examination of the candidates running for the State Senate seat in the 35th district.

"Candidates: 35th State Senate Race" will air Monday, May 6 at 9 p.m. Voters in that district will be deciding who among 10 candidates will fill the seat vacated when the incumbent John Seymour was chosen by Governor Pete Wilson to fill Wilson's senate seat after he was elected governor.

Three of the leading candidates - John R. Lewis (R), Assemblyman, 67th District; Francis Hoffman (D); and Erik Sprak (Lib.) will appear to discuss the issues and their platforms with host Jim Cooper. The program will be repeated on Saturday, May 11 at 6 p.m.

"Half-Cent Sales Tax For Jail and Courts," airs on Saturday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. This program, hosted by Emmy Award-winning newsman Jim Cooper, examines the controversial issue which, if approved, is expected to raise about \$343 over the next 30 years to fund the construction of a new jail in Gypsum Canyon and additional court facilities.

Community leaders on both sides of the issue, including Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Brad Gates and Anaheim Mayor Fred Hunter, will discuss the topic and answer questions. "Half-Cent Sales Tax For Jail and Courts" will be repeated on Monday, May 13 at 9 p.m.

Saddle up with the Duke

Trbute to Wayne 'Stands Tall'

By F. Colin Kinston
El Don Style Editor

John Wayne, the actor, may be gone but John Wayne, the film legend, will live forever. Wayne's film career, along with that of noted character actor Hank Worden, will be the subject of upcoming specials on KOCE-TV Channel 50, public television for Orange County.

"John Wayne Standing Tall" traces Wayne's film career from the days of silent pictures and such pictures as "Hangman's House" (1928) to his final film in 1976 "The Shootout."

The 90-minute special features movie clips and interviews with such notables as former President Ronald Reagan, director Peter Bogdanovich, Angie Dickinson and Rich Little. The film also examines Wayne's battle with cancer.

Reporter Jim Bacon hosts a special segment of the program examining the filming of Wayne's 1956 film "The Conquerors." The film was shot immediately following the conclusion of

atomic testing in the area of St. George, Utah. Incredibly, one-third of the cast and crew members of "The Conquerors", including John Wayne, Agnes Moorehead, Dick Powell and Susan Hayward, have since died of cancer.

Immediately following "Standing Tall" is "Thank, Ya, Thank Ya Kindly", a profile of legendary western character actor Hank Worden. Worden began his acting career almost 50 years ago as an extra in "The Plainsman" starring Gary Cooper. He has since completed 130 films - 13 of them with John Wayne.

Included in this film are clips from such western classics as "The Searchers", "Big Sky" and "Horse Soldiers." Also featured are comments from such actors as Clint Eastwood, Ben Johnson and Harry Carey, Jr.

"John Wayne Standing Tall" airs at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15 immediately followed by "Thank Ya, Thank Ya Kindly" at 9:30 p.m. Both shows are part of KOCE-TV's salute to the American Western.

May Events

RSC's Fine and Performing Arts Department has a number of exciting events planned for the final weeks of the spring semester. They include:

"He and She...An Allen Mystery." Written by members of the New Plays and Players Workshop, directed by Ron Conroy.

Performances are scheduled for May 2-4 and 9-12 at 8 p.m. in Phillips Hall. A Sunday matinee on May 12 at 3 p.m.

General admission is \$10 for students, \$6 for seniors and children under 12.

"The Two Noble Kinsmen" by William Shakespeare and John Fletcher, a rarely performed classic. Debuts on May 3 in Phillips Hall. Adapted from Chaucer's "The Knight Tale".

"The Two Noble Kinsmen" May 3, 4, 9, 10, 16, 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. Matinees are May 5 and

12 at 3 p.m. General admission is \$10 for students, \$6 for seniors and children under 12.

Big Band Jazz Concert in Phillips Hall on Sunday, May 5 at 7 p.m. Two featured guest artists, vibraphone artist Terry Gibbs and drummer Frank Capp, will also accompany each of the jazz bands. Tickets for the evening concert are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and children under 12.

Painter Madden Harkness will be the guest speaker at the final RSC Art Forum, on Monday, May 13 at noon in room C-104 on RSC's Santa Ana Campus. Admission is free. For further information, call (714) 564-5600.

The California Master Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Larry K. Ball, will be featured on Saturday, May 18, 8 p.m. at Red Hill Lutheran Church in Tustin. A Tribute to Mozart.

THEY SAID IT...

*"There once was a player
named Bright
Whose speed was much faster
than light.
He stole home one day
In a relative way,
And scored the previous night."*

-Old Baseball proverb

IT'S A FACT

It's amazing enough that Nolan Ryan, at age 44, is still throwing. He threw his seventh no-hitter Wednesday after throwing 131 pitches four days previous. He's thrown three No-Nos in California and two in Texas and dominates the AL with 53 strikeouts. Roger Clemens is next with 37.

Happy 75th RSC (oh baby what a year it's been)

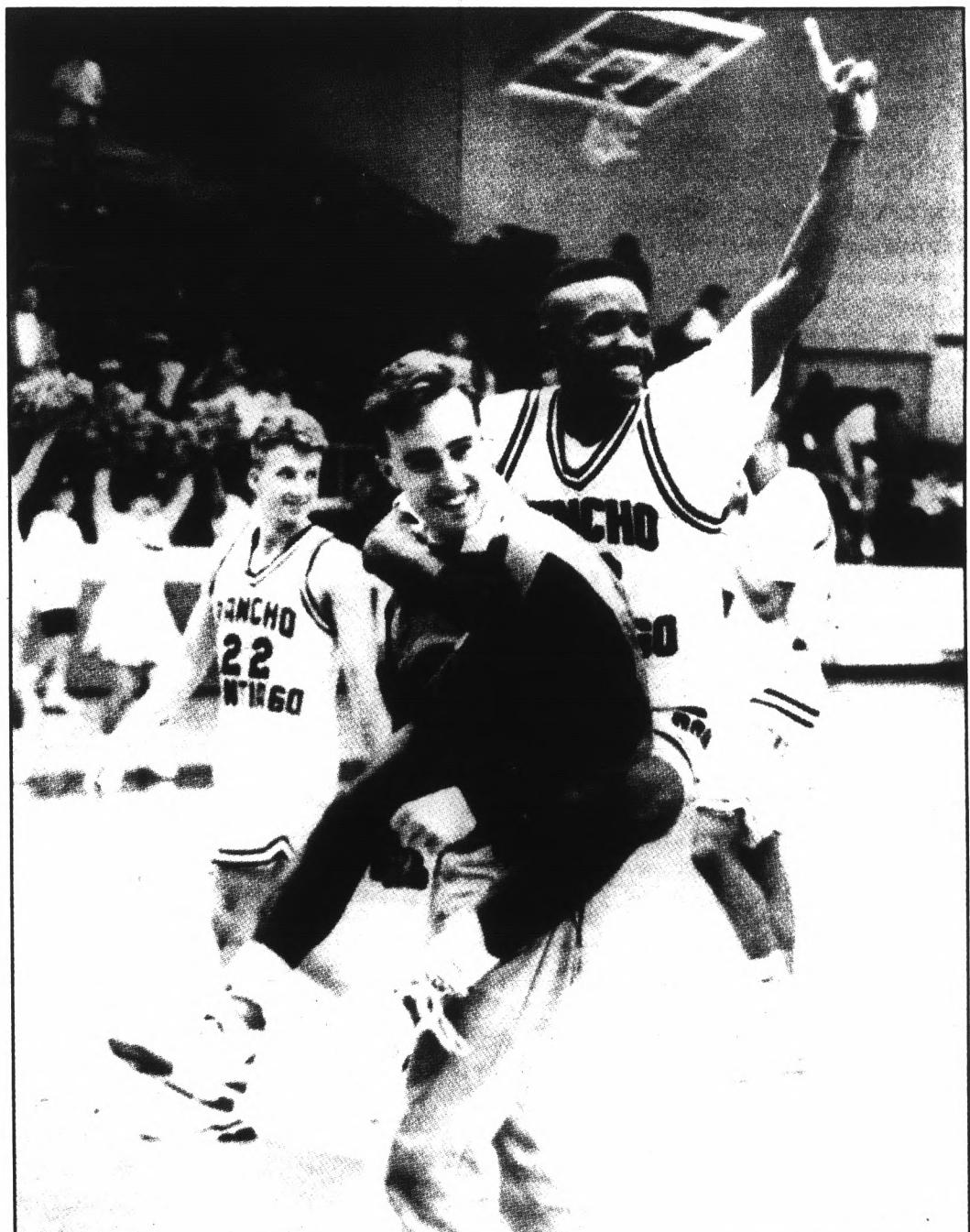


David Stern/el Don Photo

YOU CAN'T TOUCH THIS- Blink, and he's gone: Estrus Crayton established himself as RSC's premier rusher and is heading for USC.



AIMING HIGH- and hitting his mark: Joel Cardenas. Shelley Nicholson/el Don Photo



Kelly Hagan/el Don Photo

Mama said knock you out!

By Gregory Creel
el Don Editor in Chief

Where does one start, and where will it end...

RSC athletics has never had two years of such success in its 75 years as the past two, and I've had a blast covering it.

Basketball won back-to-back state titles, Football won a Bowl game and gave us one of the state's most dazzling ball carriers and Baseball has won their second straight conference title.

Hoops. The Dons slam and jammed the rock better than any school in California. Their two-year record is virtually untouchable at 67-5. Coach Dana Pagett won his 200th and the team won all six tournaments they participated in this season.

Football. Two words: Estrus Crayton. A zephyr. His speed and grace sliced him through defenses and records. No one could harness him, save one. USC got him. He'll be the flash on your TV screen next year

running for Troy.

The Dons presented coach Don Sneddon his second consecutive conference championship. He has three conference flags and won his 300th this season. It looks like they're on their way to Sacramento.

Wrestling had three conference first team honorees: Jason Booth (118), Pat Kinney (126) and Ryan Owings (158). Bo Leyva (134) was second team.

Babies. It's a boy and a girl.

RSC had two babies. The boy was a brand new Mens Volleyball team. They didn't do too well, but dynasties take time. Leading to the girl, not a new team, but a new coach. Alani Silva, who played on RSC's 1984 and state champion 1985 softball team, returned as a coach. They haven't done too well, but Southern California is a softball cornucopia, recruiting is tough and the hot players go to hot schools.

After finals I'll be gone, but not RSC's athletic success. Do something nice for yourself, stick around and catch some games.

NUMBER ONE- Vern Broadnax does the signaling as Jason Heskett does the work.

Dons double up OEC

By Gregory Creel
el Don Editor in Chief

RSC baseball, in defeating Orange Coast 8-3, has clinched their second consecutive, and third conference championship in four years.

The win was a combined effort of offense and defense. Sophomore pitcher Jay Hassel, injured for most of the season, went 8.1 innings for his fourth win and freshman reliever J.J. Thobe recorded his ninth save, extending on his RSC single season save record.

"Without Hassel, I wasn't sure what kind of a chance we were going to have this season," said coach Don Sneddon. "They've (the pitchers) done a good job this year."

Shortstop Raul Rodarte homered, lifting his season total to 11 with 49 RBI and is batting .397. Jeff White, the team batting leader is also leading the Orange Empire Conference with a .424 average, 22 points higher than Saddleback's Brian Walker in second.

The conference championship guarantees the Dons home field advantage for the first round Saturday and Sunday, May 11-12. Sneddon admitted he expected just about anything at the start of the season. "With the strength of our league we could have finished anywhere between first and

fifth place," he said. "But we had those 'intangibles'. We never panicked, came from behind to win and held leads for wins."

Going into the playoffs, RSC has used just about every line-up possible. This will work to the team's advantage according to Sneddon, RSC's winningest coach: "Using all those line-ups gives experience to more players which can only help when they step in in the tournament."

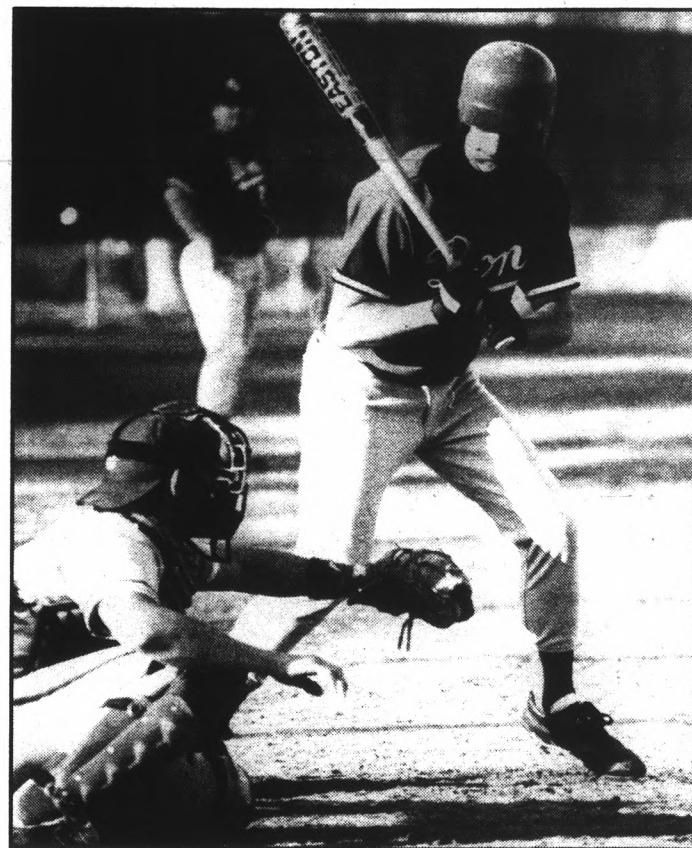
Sneddon may have to polish his shades, the future looks bright for the Dons. It may be a welcomed long tournament this year.

Playoff Schedule

Sectional Play-offs - Sat.-Sun. May 11-12 at RSC.

Regional Playoffs - Fri.-Sun. May 17-19. Site to be announced Mon. May 6. Call Dale Rube 564-6475.

State Playoffs - Sat.-Mon. May 25-27. Sacramento City College.



Gregory Creel/el Don Photo

DON'T LOOK BACK - Jeremy Sherman and the Dons are aiming their sights north to the championships in Sacramento.

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